

RE: UC - EPA vermiculite data request - response 11122010

Bob Benson to: Brattin, Bill

11/29/2010 09:27 AM

From: Bob Benson/R8/USEPA/US

To: "Brattin, Bill" <brattin@srcinc.com>

That will work. Have a good trip!

I remember that you made a number of corrections to the summary file in excel, but I don't have version that I can follow.

Please update the attached excel file and mark the model that you have the most confidence in. Also provide the RfC calculation based on 70 year exposure and 70 year latency.



Dichotomous Hill Fitting Summary.xls

"Brattin, Bill" ---11/29/2010 08:45:20 AM---Bob FYI...I am leaving for hawaii tomorrow AM, and will be gone for 8 days.

From: "Brattin, Bill" <brattin@srcinc.com>

To: Bob Benson/R8/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 11/29/2010 08:45 AM

Subject: RE: UC - EPA vermiculite data request - response 11122010

Bob

FYI...I am leaving for hawaii tomorrow AM, and will be gone for 8 days.

I think your briefing will have to be based on the work we already did and talked through (remember, you saved the whole file to your computer). I expect there to be relatively small changes due to the revisions in the CHEEC for the 1980 data.

Bill Brattin

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Denver CO 80202

brattin@srcinc.com

303-357-3121

From: Benson.Bob@epamail.epa.gov [Benson.Bob@epamail.epa.gov]

Sent: Monday, November 29, 2010 10:42 AM

To: Hilbert, Timothy (hilbertj)

Cc: Borton, Eric (bortonek); Brattin, Bill; Lemasters, Grace (lemastgj); Lockey, James (lockeyje); Rice, Carol (ricech)

Subject: RE: UC - EPA vermiculite data request - response 11122010

Thank you for the clarification on 17352 and 17847 and the information on x-ray improvements.

Can you provide an estimate of when the 1980 CHEEC values will be available? We are scheduled to do a briefing for Superfund management in DC next week.

From: "Hilbert, Timothy (hilbertj)" <HILBERTJ@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>
To: Bob Benson/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "brattin@srcinc.com" <brattin@srcinc.com>, "Borton, Eric (bortonek)" <BORTONEK@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>, "Lockey, James (lockeyje)" <lockeyje@UCMAIL.UC.EDU>, "Lemasters, Grace (lemastgj)" <LEMASTGJ@ucmail.uc.edu>, "Rice, Carol (ricech)" <ricech@ucmail.uc.edu>
Date: 11/24/2010 06:11 AM
Subject: RE: UC - EPA vermiculite data request - response 11122010

Bob,

The two workers 10395 and 14061 had X-rays at the time of their hire so your modification of the X-ray date to 6/1/80 is fine.

There were no data entry errors regarding 17352 and 17847. We don't have their x-rays or B-reader forms from 1980 so all we know is the diffuse/discrete determination. However, the 2004 B-reader forms for 17352 indicate pleural changes that could easily have been marked as diffuse pleural thickening (in fact, 1 of the 3 readers did so). We believe 17352 still has the same pleural changes that were called diffuse pleural thickening in 1980. Regarding 17847...the discrete changes from 1980 could have been an over-call or the 2004 could have been an under-call. In any case, he is no longer positive.

There were no technological improvements in radiographic equipment between 1980 and 2004 that would have a substantially impact on the readings. There also were no differences in overall film quality that would have a substantial impact on the readings.

We will get back to you shortly regarding 1980 CHEEC values.

Thanks
Tim

-----Original Message-----

From: Benson.Bob@epamail.epa.gov [mailto:Benson.Bob@epamail.epa.gov]
Sent: Monday, November 15, 2010 3:43 PM

To: Borton, Eric (bortonek)
Cc: brattin@srcinc.com; Hilbert, Timothy (hilbertj)
Subject: Re: UC - EPA vermiculite data request - response 11122010

It turns out that we also need the CHEEC calculation as of the date of x-ray in 1980. We suggest using the CHEEC as of 05/31/1980 to match the seasonal work schedule.

You can either do the full 513 or re-do only those with asbestos other = 0 and job-stop >06/01/1980. Your choice. My count shows the later to be n = 271.

I hope this will be our final request for data. We are getting close to an exposure-response model that we think will work.

We noted there were two workers (#10395 and #14061) who were not hired until 06/01/1980, but were included in the 513, so we modified the x-ray date to 06/01/1980. Please check the records for the hire dates for these two.

We also noted two discrepancies when comparing the health endpoint in 1980 versus 2004. See list below.

#17352 diffuse in 1980; no radiographic change in 2004

#17847 discrete in 1980, no radiographic change in 2004

Please check whether there is a data entry error or a difference in diagnosis by the readers.

When we were talking with NCEA last week a question came up about the quality of the films and x-ray equipment in 2004 versus 1980. This is a question for Jim:

Were there improvements made between 1980 and 2004 that would have a substantial effect on the reliability of the diagnosis in 1980?